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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 8 October 1963

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L. [] Mrs. Rowena Keefe, in the office of Senator George A. Smathers, called to say that they had received a letter from a constituent which was critical of the Agency and indicated that there was no congressional control over the Agency's funds. Mrs. Keefe asked me for guidance in the preparation of a response. I advised her it was the Agency's policy not to comment on press stories speculating with regard to the Agency's functions but as a matter of fact, the Agency was responsible to the Appropriations Committees as well as our formally designated Subcommittees of Armed Services. Noting that Senator Smathers had introduced a resolution calling for a Joint Committee on Intelligence, I told Mrs. Keefe that how she replied to this letter was a matter for their office to determine.

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3. [] Monitored the briefing by McNamara and Taylor to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. See Memorandum for the Record. During the course of the hearings, Senator Fulbright privately requested whether the Director could appear before the Committee at ten o'clock on Friday. Subsequently, Pat Holt was advised that this time was acceptable. Holt said we could judge the course of such a meeting from the meeting today but suggested that a brief statement by the Agency would seem desirable and then open up the briefing to questions. He also indicated there could well be questions raised about Latin America specifically mentioning Honduras, Dominican Republic and Brazil.

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